

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 124**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Fuentes**

January 10, 2011

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An act to add Section 60811.3 to the Education Code, relating to academic content standards.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 124, as introduced, Fuentes. Academic content standards: English Language Development Standards Advisory Committee.

Existing law requires each school district that has one or more pupils who are English learners to assess the English language development of each of those pupils upon initial enrollment in order to determine the level of proficiency of those pupils, and thereafter to assess each of those pupils annually until the pupil is redesignated as English proficient.

Existing law requires the State Board of Education to approve standards for English language development for pupils whose primary language is a language other than English. Existing law further requires that these standards be comparable in rigor and specificity to the statewide academically rigorous content standards for English language arts.

This bill would establish a 13-member English Language Development Standards Advisory Committee for the purpose of ensuring high-quality instruction for English language learners as the state implements the academic content standards in English language arts. The bill would specify the appointing authorities and qualifications of the members of the advisory committee.

The bill would require the advisory committee to update, revise, and align the English language development standards adopted pursuant to

existing law to the state board-approved academic content standards for English language arts. The bill would also require the advisory committee to present its revised and aligned English language development standards to the State Board of Education on or before August 31, 2012. The bill would further require the state board to either adopt or reject the standards presented by the advisory committee on or before September 30, 2012.

The bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the state board to present to the Governor and the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature a schedule and implementation plan for integrating the English language development standards adopted pursuant to this bill into the state public education system.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 60811.3 is added to the Education Code,  
2     to read:  
3     60811.3. (a) The English Language Development Standards  
4     Advisory Committee is hereby established for the purpose of  
5     ensuring high-quality instruction for English language learners as  
6     the state implements the academic content standards in English  
7     language arts adopted pursuant to Section 60605.8. The advisory  
8     committee shall consist of 13 members, to be appointed as follows:  
9     (1) Four members appointed by the Governor.  
10    (2) Three members appointed by the Senate Committee on  
11    Rules.  
12    (3) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.  
13    (4) Three members appointed by the Superintendent.  
14    (b) The members of the advisory committee shall serve at the  
15    pleasure of the Superintendent.  
16    (c) At least seven of the members appointed pursuant to  
17    subdivision (a) shall be credentialed public elementary or secondary  
18    classroom teachers possessing authorized certificates for the  
19    instruction of English learners and who have a minimum of three  
20    years of demonstrated experience instructing English learners in  
21    the classroom. At least four of these credentialed teachers shall  
22    represent elementary schools. The remaining members of the  
23    advisory committee shall include representatives who are schoolsite

1 principals, school district or county office of education  
2 administrators overseeing programs and support for English  
3 learners, personnel of teacher training schools at institutions of  
4 higher education, or curriculum and instructional specialists with  
5 English learner expertise.

6 (d) The advisory committee shall update, revise, and align the  
7 English language development standards adopted pursuant to  
8 Section 60811 to the state boardapproved academic content  
9 standards for English language arts adopted pursuant to Section  
10 60605.8. The English language development standards shall be  
11 aligned by grade level, and shall be comparable to, and as rigorous  
12 and specific as, the academic content standards for English  
13 language arts adopted by the state board pursuant to Section  
14 60605.8.

15 (e) Pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article 9  
16 commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of  
17 Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), each meeting or  
18 hearing of the advisory committee shall be open and available to  
19 the public.

20 (f) On or before August 31, 2012, the advisory committee shall  
21 present its revised and aligned English language development  
22 standards to the state board.

23 (g) On or before September 30, 2012, the state board shall do  
24 either of the following:

25 (1) Adopt the English language development standards presented  
26 by the advisory committee.

27 (2) Reject the English language development standards presented  
28 by the advisory committee. If the state board rejects the standards  
29 pursuant to this paragraph, the state board shall transmit to the  
30 Superintendent, the Governor, and the appropriate policy and fiscal  
31 committees of the Legislature a specific written explanation of the  
32 reasons why the standards presented by the advisory committee  
33 were rejected.

34 (h) The Superintendent and the state board shall present to the  
35 Governor and the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the  
36 Legislature a schedule and implementation plan for integrating the  
37 English language development standards adopted pursuant to this  
38 section into the state public education system.

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